

Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

2015 was our year to be Bold and Audacious.

We continued to expand our mission to serve our students so they can **graduate on time**, provided **field schools** throughout Alaska, welcomed hundreds of our community members to the campus for **42 free events**, invited school age children to explore the wonders of the UAF learning environment with **evening programs and 19 day camps**, hosted **Gloria Steinem**, roamed three continents with **educational travel programs**, and realized that even in these challenging economic times, wonderful things can continue to happen **right here in our Alaska**. Yes, this year, between WINTERmester, our weekend college, and the summer program, **1,929 students** took advantage of the learning opportunities to further their education. Students came from all over the world, and we were grateful for the opportunity to share our Alaska with them.

With that said, we wanted to provide the chance for even more students to come and experience UAF during the summer. We opened another opportunity by providing airline tickets from Seattle for those who would come and spend six weeks here taking a minimum of six credits.

We call the program **Alaska Dreaming**. As we often say, "Alaska...try it, you will love it."

It has been a busy year with many satisfying moments. We could not have done it without the help of our generous sponsors. With the fiscal challenges of the year to come, "Be Bold and Audacious" may just become our mantra. It is a pleasure and an honor to be a part of UAF and we look forward to what lies ahead.



Michelle Bartlett, Director,
Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning

ACADEMICS

This year we are highlighting areas that are unique to summer plus the effective use of the technology we have available here at UAF.

This summer, in addition to the usual class presentation, **Statics and Dynamics** courses were available via videoconferencing for our engineering students.

Enrollment in summer **Engineering Science** courses more than doubled over previous years. The instructor, Dr. Leroy Hulsey said the classes, offered from 6-8 p.m., allowed students more flexibility with their summer work schedules. Professor Hulsey earned the 2015 Mastadon Award presented each year to the faculty member with the most students enrolled in a single class.

2016 Summer Field Camps

Summer provides the opportunity to learn in Alaska's outdoor classroom. This year there were eight field schools with students coming from all over the world.

Alaska Environmental Change Field School traveled the Haul Road from Fairbanks to Deadhorse led by Professor Skip Walker.

Field Geology to Healy, Talkeetna, and Denali National Park was led by Jochen Metzger.

Professor Katrin Iken taught **Marine Biology and Ecology Field School** at Kasitsna Bay.

Every year, **Volcanological Field Schools** led by Dr. Pavel Izbekov to Kamchatka and Katmai welcome students from around the world to learn in these unique environments.

The National Park Service's restored mining camp at Coal Creek off the Yukon River hosted two courses this year: a **Field Photography** course taught by Richard Murphy, 2015 Snedden Chair in Journalism and a **professional development course for teachers** taught by Maria Berger, NPS Education Specialist.

Dr. Paul Metz and students studied **Geological Engineering Field Methods** along the Richardson, Elliott and Dalton Highways.

Field Photography expeditions, led by Richard Murphy, ventured into **Denali National Park** and down the **Noatak River** on a 12 day canoe trip with the National Park Service in Gates of the Arctic National Park & Preserve.



Alaska Soil Geography Field School
Led by Professor Chien-Lu Ping, 24 students traveled up and down the Dalton Highway. Here the class studies wetland soils in a bog south of Coldfoot.

CULTURAL TRAVEL PROGRAMS



Outbound

The popularity of the SSLL travel programs has prompted their expansion. This past year there were programs to **Greece, Ecuador and Morocco**. Each journey made us better world citizens as we came to understand these countries through the eyes of the local people.

In Greece we traveled back to antiquity with visits to the Parthenon, Olympia, Delphi and Sparta, then enjoyed the exquisite islands of Naxos and Santorini. In addition to the cuisine and history, travelers came to understand the economic challenges facing the Greek nation.

Ecuador, and the splendor of the Galápagos, is an immersion into the beauty of a sustainable ecology. Walking on the islands right next to red-footed boobies nests and sea lions we were able to share their bit of paradise.

Morocco, an Arab nation with a constitutional monarchy, opened the eyes of the travelers to appreciate the rich natural, cultural and political history of this ancient nation. The revenue from these travel programs helps sustain other parts of Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning.

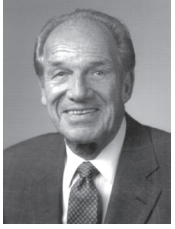
Inbound

Summer Sessions hosted a two-week intensive **English as a Second Language program** for 29 students from Fukuyama City University in Japan. In addition to classroom instruction, the students savored Alaskan cultural experiences including meals out, visits to the UA Museum of the North, Creamer's Field and Denali National Park, rafting down the Chena River and soaking at Chena Hot Springs. This is the program's third year, and there are already 36 students signed up for the program next summer.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Summer Sessions offered 42 free programs over the summer

showcasing local scientists, scholars, writers, musicians and others. It began with the eighth annual Really Free Market, an event where the Golden Heart City always shines with a spirit of community sharing. Hundreds of individuals took advantage of the opportunity to give as well as receive as thousands of items moved on to other homes where they were needed.



The annual **Legacy Lecture** honored Patrick O'Neill who earned two degrees in mining engineering at UAF. As President of International Mining Corporation, which developed some of the western world's great metal resources, he was an outspoken advocate for corporate policies that struck the right balance between profitability, social responsibility, and environmental stewardship. Generous sponsorship from the UAF Alumni Association and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Advancement made this event possible.



possible by the support of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Magical Mondays brought delightful hands-on science experiences for children, their parents, and grandparents. Each Monday evening was a wonderful fun-filled learning adventure and over the summer 429 people participated. These programs were made



acupuncture and Oriental medicine possibilities. Over 500 people appreciated this series, which was made possible by a generous grants from the Tanana Valley Clinic and the Cooperative Extension Service.

The **Healthy Living Lecture Series** on Tuesday evenings, a cooperative venture between Fairbanks Memorial Hospital and Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning, brought health care professionals to campus to address such relevant topics as neck and back pain, diabetes management,



authors, paleontologist, anthropologist, retired superior court judge, mammologist, and others discuss their views of Alaska.

Wednesday evening's **Discover Alaska Lecture Series**, now in its ninth year, is a favorite of the Fairbanks community. This year over 800 folks came out over the course of the summer to enjoy the

Music in the Garden

This series was made possible by generous grants from Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, Robinson and Ward, P.C., and the Alaska Coffee Roasting Company.

Thursday evenings, music filled the air, as hundreds of people enjoyed the **Music in the Garden concert series** provided in the Georgeson Botanical Garden.



Gloria Steinem



On June 12, in the Davis Concert Hall, An Evening with Gloria Steinem, cofounder of Ms. Magazine and national icon, was Summer Sessions' special event this summer. The decision was made to make this a free event so no one would be denied the opportunity to hear her. That being said, the event cost over \$30,000 and in this era of shrinking and even disappearing budgets, the endeavor was a challenge. Donations came from the

UAF Social Work Department, the UAF Women and Gender Studies Program, the Fabulous Feminist Fundraiser, Fairbanks Rotary, and the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, in addition to more than 150 individuals who made personal donations ranging from \$10 to \$1,000. More than 1,500 people attended, filling the Charles Davis Concert Hall, the Salisbury Theater, and two smart classrooms in the Gruening Building. Steinem's talk was streamed live, as well as recorded and posted on the Summer Sessions website. No other single event has ever brought so many people to UAF.

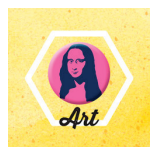
UAF PHOTOS BY JUANICHEIA



NEW THIS YEAR

Nineteen day camps for elementary school-aged children

were offered and 324 children participated. There was storytelling, photography, geology, pottery, archeology, art, music, dinosaurs, bugs, and culinary arts. All the camps are self-supporting. In past years only those children whose parents could afford the camps were able to participate. To make sure the day camps were accessible to more children, Summer Sessions created a scholarship fund with generous donations from the UA College Savings Program, Dr. James Miears, and Roy and Stephanie Strandberg for students who qualified for free or reduced price school lunches. Additionally, 40 students were sponsored through the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Migrant Education Program.



Kudos to our sponsors

We could not have done it without the support of our community. Last fiscal year, twenty three organizations/businesses plus 152 individual donors like you gave over \$100,000 in support of Summer Sessions & LifeLong Learning. We sincerely thank you for your generous contributions and the impact you continue to make on our students, programs and our community.



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UAF Department of Social Work

UAF Women and Gender Studies Program

SUMMER NUMBERS

SUMMER STUDENTS

Unduplicated headcount includes credit and non-credit courses, camps, travel programs

1,929

COURSES OFFERED

Credit, non-credit, camps, travel programs

300

TUITION ASSISTANCE

Tuition awards, Sweet Summer Deal,
ESL classes, scholarships

137

TRAVEL AWARDS

To Summer Sessions faculty for professional
development

87

EVENT ATTENDANCE

Lecture series, Music in the Garden,
An Evening with Gloria Steinem

4,517

2016 Calendar

WINTERmester January 4–13
MAYmester May 9–20
Full Summer Session May 23–August 12
Six-week Summer Session I May 23–July 1
Six-week Summer Session II July 6–August 12

Summer@UAF

Summer Sessions & Lifelong Learning
University of Alaska Fairbanks
P.O. Box 757540 • Fairbanks, Alaska • 99775-7540
summer@alaska.edu • www.uaf.edu/summer/
(907) 474-7021 • (866) 404-7021



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